

October 2, 1896

August 14, 1976

OBSEQUIES OF

Bishop Samuel Martin Crouch, Sr.



FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1976
10:00 A.M.
CROUCH STATE TEMPLE
2300 South Central Avenue
Los Angeles, California

OBITUARY

BISHOP SAMUEL MARTIN CROUCH, SR.

"The work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever." (Isaiah 32:17)

On October 2, 1896 in Dallas, Texas God gave to the world a baby boy who had been chosen from his mother's womb to be a spiritual giant - a leader, an advisor, an intercessor for the needs of the people, a preacher. He began preaching at about twelve years of age after hearing the Lord call him by his name saying, "I have need of thee". He went from town to town on his bicycle carrying the gospel a boy in knee pants. He always said that he would never come home in the winter time. He would stay and buffet the storm.

In 1916, Elder Samuel Martin Crouch married Miss Gertrude Williams of Waco, Texas. This young couple left Waco for his first pastorate in Dennison, Texas. Elder "Sammy" Crouch conducted a large tent revival in Fort Worth, Texas on Trezevant Hill before he became Pastor of the Trezevant Hill Church of God in Christ. Believing in outdoor services, he erected an outdoor tent on Ruskin Street in Queens City in Dallas Texas.

In 1927, at the invitation of the late Mother Emma Cotton and the encouragement of his own mother, Mother Rose Tucker, who had come to California earlier, Bishop Crouch came to Fresno and pastored a non-denominational church, later converting that church to the doctrines of the C.O.G.I.C. Avenue Church at Hooper Avenue in Los Angeles. He was later called to Oakland, California and founded the Church of West Eighth and Palo Alto.

Elder Crouch began his pastorate at 33rd and Compton Avenue in 1931. In this same year as he arrived home with the joy of being appointed State Overseer of California, (the youngest ever appointed to such a position), he faced the sorrow of being a young widower with six children. In 1933 he married Miss Lottie B. Pegues of Fort Smith, Arkansas. In 1940, he was appointed "Bishop" of California. A leader with extraordinary foresight, Bishop Crouch was elected on the Executive Board of Commissioners of the Church of God in Christ (one of the youngest to serve on the Board). His other offices and achievements include:

- Pioneer in the Radio Ministry (Black and White)
- International President of the Home & Foreign Mission Department. Under his leadership building homes, schools and churches in places as far as Africa and Haiti.
- Second Assistant Bishop of the Churches of God in Christ - 1968-1972
- First Assistant Bishop - Churches of God in Christ - 1972-1976
- Member of Presidium Board, World Pentecostal Conference
- Purchased Crouch State Temple, 2300 S. Central Avenue in Los Angeles, California-1962
- Maintained a Mission Home in Fontana, California for Missionaries and Workers rent-free.
- President of Emmanuel Ontario Gardens, a 252 unit apartment complex with a chapel for senior citizens in Ontario, California

Some of his favorite scriptures were Isaiah 40:28-31; St. John 10:10; Psalm 103:1-3; St. John 17; and Psalm 43:3,4.

Bishop Crouch never experienced any illness prior to his six weeks hospitalization before his demise. His testimony was, "I have finished my work and am ready to go". On Saturday morning, August 14, 1976, at approximately 4:30 a.m., he laid down his cross to receive his crown. Those of the family who remain with cherished memories are his very devoted wife, Mrs. Lottie B. Crouch; five children: Mr. George W. Crouch, Sr., Mrs. Ruth Vaughn, Rev. Samuel Crouch, Jr., Mr. Herman Crouch and Mrs. Rose Wright; nine grandchildren; ten great grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Marion Smith of Oakland, California; one nephew, Dr. Accie Mitchel; other relatives, many, many friends.

EVEN SO, COME, LORD JESUS!

ORDER OF SERVICE

- Organ Prelude Elder Charles Garnett
- State Choir Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty
- Master of Ceremonies Bishop J. A. Blake
- Opening Scripture - Psalm 121 Bishop Jacob Cohen
Jurisdictional Bishop, Eastern Florida
- Invocation Bishop C.L. Anderson
Jurisdictional Bishop, Great Lakes
- Next Opening Scripture-1 Corinthians 15:51-58. Bishop J.D. Husband
Jurisdictional Bishop, Central Georgia
- State Choir Great Is Thy Faithfulness
- Brief Remarks Bishop L.H. Ford, 2nd Presiding Assistant, Chicago Illinois
Bishop J.S. Bailey, General Board Member, Detroit, Michigan
Bishop O. M. Kelly, General Board Member, New York, New York
- State Choir He Hideth My Soul
- Acknowledgement of Governmental and Ecclesiastical Officials Elder J. W. Mayfield
- Acknowledgement of Telegrams, Condolences, etc. Elder Charles Blake
- Resolutions: National Representative Bishop DeWitt Burton,
General Secretary, Eastern Pennsylvania
- State Representative Elder Harold G. Smith,
State Secretary, California Jurisdiction No. 1
- General Board Bishop F.D. Washington,
Secretary, General Board, Churches of God in Christ, Brooklyn, New York
- State Choir Jesus Savior Pilot Me
- Brief Remarks Mother Mattie McGlothen, International Supervisor, Women's Dept.
Mother Leanna O. Hale, State Supervisor, Women's Dept., Southern California,
Jurisdiction No. 1
- Words of Consolation Bishop O.T. Jones, Jr., Jurisdictional Bishop, Commonwealth
of Pennsylvania
- Prayer of Solace Dr. Ithiel Clemmons, Brooklyn, New York
- Solo. My Task Sister Velton Garnett
- Obituary Elder Lawrence Catley
- Eulogy Bishop J.O. Patterson, Presiding Bishop, Churches of God in Christ
- Benediction Bishop J.W. White, Jurisdictional Bishop, Western Louisiana

Recessional

ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

BISHOP B. R. STEWART

BISHOP S.R. MARTIN

SUPT. O.B. BOOKER

ELDER E.L. WHITE

BRO. BEN O. REDMOND

BRO. SAMUEL W. DERRICK

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

GENERAL BOARD MEMBERS -CHURHCES OF GOD IN CHRIST

BISHOP J.O. PATTERSON

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BISHOP J.W. WHITE

BISHOP J.D. HUSBAND

BISHOP C.L. ANDERSON

BISHOP JACOB COHEN

BISHOP D.A. BURTON

INTERMENT

INGLEWOOD PARK CEMETERY

ANGELUS FUNERAL HOME

MORTICIANS-IN-CHARGE